THE CO Sleeper Hack

WHEN to use it
When you need to get some sleep without worrying what your puppy is getting into or peeing on (or whose toes they might be stepping on in the middle of the night) this hack is a game changer that makes for happier pups and peeps (and putty tats that might be about!)

HOW it works
Dogs are social animals (G) who naturally want to sleep with their social members. Having your pup leashed next to you in a co-sleeper position (E) keeps him out of trouble while you rest, enables you to touch him and for him to reach you if he needs something without whining or barking (L) and promotes healthy bonding (G / E / L) and secure attachment (S) to a human family member (E).

HOW to use it
Be responsive to your puppy if he’s restless - first provide your hand for brief reassurance in case he just needs to know you’re there, and take him out for a potty break if he persists (but then right back to bed with no play or extended attention).

Place a comfy dog bed right next to the side of your bed where you sleep and attach a leash to the leg of the bed underneath your pillow.

Make the leash just long enough to reach the full extent of the bed (which should be big enough for your puppy to spread out on fully)

“Tell your pup how great they are for hanging out in their “crib”.

Provide a bowl of fresh water within reach, at the edge of the bed closest to you.

Make sure you are always there with them.

Provide chew toys, safe bones, and cuddle toys for your pup next to the bed within reach that will promote calm outlets for self soothing and boredom relief when settling down.